

number of supplementary questions it is clear that Government never tried to prevaricate on answers.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—It is not for the mere number. It was only for the numerical amount of the questions we ask. Where was the difficulty about that? Look at the volume of the work to be done.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Is it not possible to collect this information by the Members themselves from the printed proceedings?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—It is to minimise the labours of the Members that they are here.

467. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of instances in which they could not give information to the House but which involved no collection of statistics, ever since the Cochin Legislative Council began?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government do not think it necessary to collect the information asked for as it will serve no purpose commensurate with the labour involved.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Can I know whether the Government have any objection for giving such informations on such simple questions? This can be found from the council proceedings. What is the difficulty of the Government in merely counting the number?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The difficulty is the amount of work that has to be done. It is not a slight amount of work. The question is about the total number of instances, etc. That means a page to page verification of the entire proceedings of the last eight years' volumes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—To show what?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—To supply an answer to this question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—The question was intended to show that Government were not giving information to Hon'ble Members of this House on important matters pertaining to their respective actions. How did the Government come to the finding that it won't serve any public purpose.

President.—Whatever may be the object of the question a reason is given for the answer.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Would it not be necessary to retain some extrahands for this?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether the Legislative Council Secretary and staff are full-time officers working throughout the year?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The staff is full-time, but the Secretary is not.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—How did the Government come to understand the purpose served by asking this question?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government could understand that purpose.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Then what is the purpose?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is not the duty of the Government to explain a purpose.

Cut motions passed in the Legislative Council.

468. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of cut motions passed ever since the Cochin Legislative Council was instituted?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of cut motions passed.</i>
1100	1
1101	Nil
1102	8
1103	12
1104	1
1105	17
1106	13
1107	15
1108 till	8
20th May 1933	
Total	75